

green sturgeon above RBDD not only extends the previously known range, it provides opportunity to apply programs for restoration of the species.

- e. **Budget Costs.**—Project costs for the first-year field activities include fabrication of the mats and salaries. Costs from mid-April to mid-July FY '99 are \$60,801. Costs for subsequent years are \$54,000, which includes fabrication for replacement mats and salaries. Costs assume the use of existing vehicles and boat. This project would be multi-year and would continue until spawning areas are located or as long as data is needed by managers or researchers working within the Sacramento River Ecological Zone.

Third party Impacts.—No third party impacts will occur during the project.

- f. **Applicant Qualifications.**—The Northern Central Valley Fish and Wildlife Office (NCVFWO) was established in 1978 as part of the Service's responsibility to facilitate restoration of Pacific salmonids. The construction and operation of dams and water diversion projects and the subsequent degradation and loss of habitat have been the primary contributors to the decline in all anadromous fishes in the upper Sacramento River. Specific goals of the NCVFWO are to: 1) Stabilize or increase the runs of anadromous fishes in the Sacramento River system, 2) Improve the effectiveness of federal fish propagation facilities in California, 3) Protect and restore the productivity of natural habitats in the Sacramento River system, and 4) Continue development of information and strategies for protecting the natural habitats of the Sacramento River system as migration routes, spawning areas, and nursery areas for anadromous fishes. Since the enactment of the CVPLA the NCVFWO has participated in a number of technical teams to develop the Anadromous Fisheries Restoration Plan (AFRP). Our office participated on the sturgeon technical team comprised of individuals from state and federal agencies and universities that developed a list of restoration needs for white and green sturgeon.

- g. **Monitoring and Data Evaluation.**—Data from this project will identify specific areas utilized for spawning and early life history information. These areas and their subsequent monitoring will coordinate with other existing sturgeon restoration programs. Peer review of reports will occur within the service, CDFG, and members of the sturgeon technical team.

- h. **Local Support/Coordination with other Programs/Compatibility with CALFED Objectives.**—This project is consistent with current restoration planning efforts identified in: Central Valley Project Improvement Act - Plan of Action for the Central Valley Anadromous Fish Restoration Program, and Working Paper on restoration needs: habitat restoration actions to double natural production of anadromous fish in the Central Valley of California. Volume 1,2, and 3. Information from the project will be exchanged for information gathered by researchers at University of California Davis pertaining to green sturgeon bioenergetics, physiology, genetics, and reproductive requirements.